

Boss of Loft When Play is Staged Must Know His Job

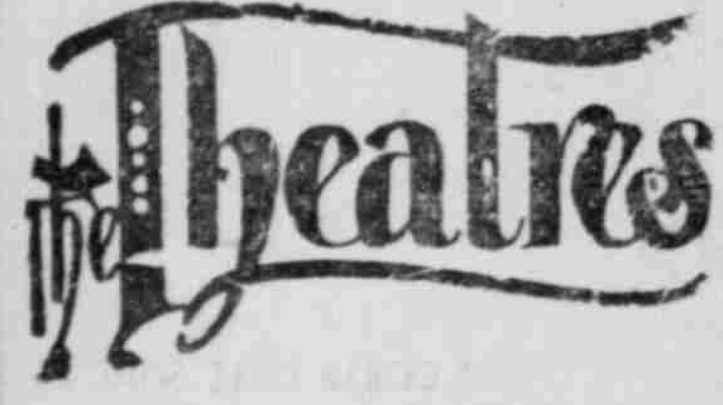
A representative of the News-Times by invitation, went into the fly gallery, and thence into the rigging-loft and thence to the gridiron over the stage of the Auditorium on Christmas night and spent three hours there. The largest theatrical attraction in American, "The Garden of Allah," was playing on the stage below. It was an odd but very interesting angle from which to study one portion of the mechanical working of a theatrical performance using a great mass of scenery.

The representative was taken in charge by A. L. Singer, a mild-mannered, swarthy man, who is the master flyman of the Liebler company's mammoth spectacle, "The Garden of Allah." Singer was a man of few words, and one might say short words, too, for his sentences are all snapped off in monosyllables. He said that he had been called "the man who is never seen and seldom heard." The reason of this is that his work is so far above the stage that signals and alarms, by which he works, are all sent him by electric bells and buzzers, and he, therefore, is not required to talk. One of the vital rules of the master flyman is that he must know the meaning of every one of these numerous signals, and his work must be accurate and accomplished with quickness and promptness.

On the stage of the Auditorium are five baggage carloads of scenery and effects. One of these carloads consists entirely of what are known technically as "drops." These are all hung from the gridiron which is 30 feet above the level of the stage. These "drops" are all painted pieces, and form the backings of the big scenes of the drama.

Must Know Job.

Singer has a crew of 30 picked men, and every one of them must be as quick of perception and quick of action as a crack baseball player, although he works at a perilous height and sometimes where it is as dark as a pocket, frequently in dark scenes on the stage, no light penetrates the lone spots of the upper stage region. He also must know the exact location of every rope among the myriads of them, and the position of every counterweight among the hundreds of them, that are used in so mammoth a production as "The Garden of Allah." A mistake would ruin a scene or perhaps a performance on the stage below. His every movement must be as sure as the strike of a piston-rod, and made with as much precision. There are 90 hanging pieces in the scenery of "The Garden of Allah," and each one of these has its own set of lines and is suspended from the fly in its own particular place. When the signal comes from the stage below, Singer must know just how and when to direct his men. He is the autocrat of the fly-floor and the gridiron, and he demands and gets prompt and intelligent obedience. His methods are not unlike those of the master of an ocean liner. Those quick-moving, silent men high above the stage, are as completely shut off from the world as if they were as many feet under ground.



"THE GARDEN OF ALLAH."

Pictures and personages of the Orient, spectacles for the eye and incidents to hold in them, a background of pageant and atmosphere and a foreground given over to a noble and moving story of faith and love and sacrifice, this in brief is "The Garden of Allah," the stage version of Robert Hichens' novel presented at the Auditorium Christmas day.

It is in reality a "staging" of that novel rather than a mere "dramatization." Some novels may be dramatized but "The Garden of Allah" is to be staged. The pictures painted so wonderfully by Mr. Hichens' words had to be reproduced with all the resources of stage mechanism and electrical effects. The desert itself had to be searched for actors, both men and brutes, and the action had to be unintelligible Arabic as well as our familiar English.

The stage version is framed so as to convey all the atmosphere of that faraway land, its lonely wastes of sand in contrast to scenes of tropical splendor. The wilderness of the sandstorm is one of the greatest stage effects of modern times. The drama is "shaded" and "colored," each scene holding the audience spellbound to its close and the mighty sacrifice with which the play ends is almost depressing.

The story of the "trappist monk" who renounced his vows, fled to the city and then to the desert, for liberty and love, who found love indeed, but lost the divine approval under which he had been happy, who was led by that very human love to return to his first vows, is wonderfully constructed. It might easily be rendered with offensive affectation or with excessive sentiment. The Auditorium production avoided all these dangers. The elements of love and faith are introduced with restraint and reverence and in the end both too more beautiful and worthy.

Lawson Butts has the difficult role of the runaway monk, and presents this very complex character with strong realism and unusual skill as an elocutionist. He created the part in the original company. Miss Sarah Truax replaces Donnelly of the organization and in the role of Domini is winsome and convincing. There is a great deal of talk in this drama and the effects are produced by a play of the emotions rather than by action. Miss Truax, in presence and demeanor, is worthy of this part. John Blair as the Count Antoni is a fine type of the modern nobleman, suave, unpretentious and full of assurance. Frank Kingston as Father Roubler is thoroughly priest-like, at once clerical and manly. Among the Arabian actors who take the native parts the most interesting is Saleem Ayoub, as the sand diver. The minor parts, both European and native, are effectively presented and the scenes are splendid in effect and accurate as to detail. The engagement will continue until Saturday night.

AT THE ORPHEUM.

There is a jolly holiday bill at the Orpheum. Just clean, wholesome vaudeville, plenty of life and variety in the acts and an excellently balanced program.

Roehm's Athletic girls, five in number, occupy the feature position and deserve it. They are well formed, splendidly developed girls who know how to fence, box, wrestle and pose without any needless delay and in a truly professional manner. The exhibition is different and interesting every moment.

Phina and her picks are a chocolate colored lot of performers who sing fairly and dance unusually well. The boys of the company include a girl and the girl plays a boy and they do it in a way that raises the fact that she is really white. The eccentric dancing of the picks is the feature of the act.

Ted McLean, once an actor at the

The SURPRISE THEATRE

THE HOME OF GOOD PICTURES

Big "Imp" Feature Today

WHO KILLED OLGA CAREW..... Two Reels

This is an unusual two-reel production. The film excites wonder. At the trial the murderer is discovered, a pet ape of the artist. The manner by which it is discovered that the ape committed the murder is very striking, depending on the principle that the last image stamped on the retina of a living being's eye will be visible there after death.

Open Mornings and Noon Hour.

Saturday a One Day Price Sale

That Only The Grand Leader Would Dare to Hold

There isn't a store in South Bend or anywhere else that can, or will duplicate this sale. There never was a 1-Day Sale like it. The chances are there never will be another.

Leaders in Low Prices Leaders in Quality

Grand Leader

132-134 W. Wash. Ave. South Bend, Ind.

11c BLEACHED MUSLIN, YARD 6 1/2c	2 Cases Amoskeag Dress Gingham 7 1/2c	5c COATS THREAD 3c	\$2.50 COMFORTS \$1.56	\$1.50 SPREADS 87c	85c UNION SUITS 48c	\$1.00 BLANKETS 68c	\$1.50 and \$2 WAISTS 88c
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Yard in the width, a national used muslin; full bleached, free from black specks; will be sold tomorrow, yard 6 1-2c. (Limit 10 yards to Customer).

In new 1914 spring patterns, in checks, plaids, striped and plain colors; 32 inches wide; best gingham manufactured; regular 12-12c yard. Special for this sale 7 1-2c.

Spool of Coats thread, black or white, all numbers. Special for this sale. Limit three spools.

Large size saten covered bed comforts. Winter has just started. You'll need warm comforts. Sale price \$1.56.

A large size cotton crocheted bed spread, thick fringed edge. Special sale for Saturday 87c.

Ladies' and misses' ribbed fleece union suits, low neck style; all sizes. Special sale Saturday 48c.

Large size double bed blankets; choice of grey and tan, with pretty colored borders. Saturday sale 68c.

Ladies' shirt waists; in the lot are flannel waists, lawns, voiles and lace effects; waists worth \$1.50 to \$2.00. Special sale 88c.

7c Best Calicoes 4 1/4c

American prints, best calico manufactured, full pieces, light and dark patterns; limit 10 yards to a customer; will be sold Saturday one day sale, yard 4 1-4c.

10c Dress Percales 6 1/2c

Double standard dress percales, figured and striped patterns, closely woven; one day sale, yard 6 1-2c.

5c Cheese Cloth 3 3/4c

36 inches wide medicated cheese cloth, soft as silk, snow white; on sale Saturday, yard 3 3-4c. Limit 10 yards to customer.

\$1.00 New Corsets 66c

Women's stylish long hip corsets, made of a fine coutil; 6 hose supporters; trimmed top; Saturday sale 66c.

\$1.00 Combination 69c

Women's muslin combination corset cover and drawers, trimmed with embroidery, lace and ribbon. Saturday 69c.

69c Flannel Gowns 39c

Women's flannelette night gowns, in plain white or pink striped trimmed yoke, cut full and long; special sale price 39c.

\$1.50 Ladies' Kid Gloves for 65c

Ladies' English walking gloves, made of heavy quality selected cape kid, slashed seams; come in tan only; regular \$1.50 gloves; special sale price Saturday 65c.

50c and 69c Children's Dresses 29c

One big bargain table filled with children's dresses; the new fall styles, made from gingham, percales; sizes 2 to 14 years. One day special 29c, while they last. (Limit 2 dresses to customer).

Girls' \$5 Coats \$2.78

One lot of girls' school coats, made from wool worsted and mohair cloth; sizes 6 to 14 years; neatly trimmed; special one day sale price \$2.78.

35c Child's Toques 19c

Wool knitted toques, fancy weave, in all colors; special sale 19c.

50c UNION SUITS 36c

Child's ribbed fleece union suits, in sizes 2 to 10, drop seat. Sale price 36c.

35c BOX KERCHIEFS 19c

A box of women's fine kerchiefs with a pretty embroidered design, arranged in fancy Xmas box. Special sale while they last 19c.

10c CANVAS GLOVES 5 1/2c

Men's heavy canvas gloves with jersey top wrists; extra special. Look men, for 5 1-2c.

50c ROMPERS 33c

Sizes 2 to 6, made of heavy flannelette, finished with a belt around; dark colors only. Sale price 33c.

\$3 Dress Skirts \$1.88

200 women's tailored skirts, made from wool serges, corduroys and shepherd checks; skirts with belt effect and plain blacks; special one day sale \$1.88.

A Sensational Sale of 88 Women's Stylish Fall Suits Worth up to \$20 Will Stir Women Who Read This Ad--Sale Starts Saturday for One Day Only

Like a bolt from a clear sky comes this stirring announcement. Starting Saturday morning at 8 o'clock sharp, the Busy Grand Leader store places on sale for inspection 68 high-grade suits for women and misses; worth up to \$20, at the surprising low price of **\$8.75**. So make all your plans to attend this sale Saturday--expect a big bargain. Actual \$16.50, \$18 and \$20 fall suits, only \$8.75. Materials are wool serges, diagonals, whipcords and chevrons, all this season's styles.

\$10 STUNNING WINTER COATS.

A splendid collection of new winter coats, comprising the newest models of the season, made of boucle, zibelines, chinchillas, meltons, etc. in all sizes. One day sale your choice. **\$5.65**

Despite the extreme reductions, alterations will be made free.

\$12.50 LADIES' FUR SETS

Ladies' and misses' French cone fur sets, large collar and scarf, satin lined. Special one day sale, set **\$5.25**

\$3.00 MUFF OR SCARF

Ladies' and misses' Cone fur scarfs or muffs in black or brown, satin lined. Special one day sale **\$1.67**

Women's 15c Hose 10 1/2c

Warm, fleeced lined hose for women, nicely shaped. In the leg, elastic top. Saturday Sale 10 1-2c.

Men's \$1.50 Sweaters 89c

Men's heavy honey comb sweater coats, in grey, made with a warm neck high collar. Saturday sale 89c.

69c Black Petticoats 38c

Women's mercerized black petticoats, imitation heatherbloom tailored flounce. Saturday sale 38c.

10 Bars Battle Ax Soap 15c

Special Saturday Morning, 9 to 12--10 bars Battle Ax Laundry Soap for 15c.

Who Does Your Thinking?

To the young girl or boy we want to say a word.

Someone has been doing a lot of thinking for you; your parents, your teacher, your friends; someone is now carrying your burden.

You will have to do your own thinking soon and you cannot do a better thing for yourself than a little thinking along the line of a savings account with this bank.

AMERICAN TRUST CO.

4%

On Savings.

AMERICAN Theatre

South Bend's Foremost Picture House.

Extra Special in Two Reels "THE RUNAWAY FREIGHT."

A daredevil leap through space to the top of a runaway freight car is one of the breathless incidents of this absorbing railroad story picture.

BABY LILLIAN WADE

The sweetest and most popular child in motion pictures, in "THE TOUCH OF A CHILD"

Orpheum Theatre

NOW PLAYING

Special Holiday Bill

ROEHM'S FIVE ATHLETIC GIRLS.

Phina and Her Picks

Ted McLean Co.

Young & April

DeMichele Bros.

Matinee Daily--2:30

Evenings--7:30 & 9

Sunday--The Girl Aboard.

MAT 10c 15c

EVE 10c 15c

25c

Route of the Lakes

TIME TABLE

(Effective September 28, 1913.)

GOSHEN DIVISION.

Daily Trains Leave.

5:15 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 6:00 p.m.

6:30 a.m. 12:30 noon 6:30 p.m.

7:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m.

8:30 a.m. 2:30 p.m. 9:30 p.m.

9:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m. 10:30 p.m.

10:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m. 11:30 p.m.

MICHIGAN CITY DIVISION.

5:15 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m.

6:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m.

7:30 a.m. 1:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m.

8:30 a.m. 2:30 p.m. 9:30 p.m.

9:30 a.m. 3:30 p.m. 10:30 p.m.

10:30 a.m. 4:30 p.m. 11:30 p.m.

ST. JOSEPH DIVISION.

5:30 a.m. 8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. 12:00 noon. 2:30 p.m. 4:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. 8:30 p.m. 10:30 p.m.

7:30 a.m. 9:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m. 1:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m. 5:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m. 9:00 p.m. 11:00 p.m.

Daily except Sunday.

E. J. HARDY.

Supt. Transportation.

MAJESTIC

10c--10c Musical Comedy And Pictures

Tonight and All Week

ANGEL MUSICAL COMEDY COMPANY IN

A Mystical Extravaganza "IN MAGIC LAND"

15--Entertainers--15

Twice Nightly, 7:30 and 9.

Matinee Daily, 2, except Monday.

SUNDAY

New Musical Comedy.

AUDITORIUM

Tonight, Saturday Matinee and Night.

The Liebler Co.'s Superb Drama-Spectacle

The Garden of Allah

Seats Now Selling.

LEATHER SHOP

315 E. MICHIGAN ST.

Dr. Tucker

Specialist in Chronic Diseases of Men and Women. Office in Toepp Building, Opposite Postoffice.

Merchants National Bank

Two reasons why you should do your BANKING BUSINESS with us.

First reason: We are loyal enough to South Bend to affirm that money deposited in South Bend Banks should be loaned in South Bend and vicinity to develop and assist our own Commercial and Manufacturing institutions. We adhere to this policy.

Second reason: The active officers in the Bank are its heaviest Stockholders, thus insuring Conservative Management and courteous treatment. All money deposited in our SAVINGS DEPARTMENT on or before January 10, 1914, draws 4% interest from January 1st. We wish to thank all our customers for their patronage in the past and solicit a continuance for the future.

Merchants National Bank

The Largest National Bank for its age in the City.

We Pay 4 Percent on Time Deposits.